SHAWNEE MISSION

53rd Street at Madison Road, Fairway

Among the earliest such institutions in the Louisiana Purchase area, the Shawnee Methodist Mission was established in 1830 by the Reverend Thomas Johnson and moved to this site in 1839. Here children of many Indian tribes were taught English, manual labor, and agriculture. The first territorial governor of Kansas established an office at the Mission in 1854, and the first territorial legislature met here in 1855. The three original brick buildings, dating from 1839 to 1845, remain in a state park administered by the Kansas State Historical Society.